

temperature than 40°C. It is orange-yellow in color. When fresh, it has a faint odor of violets and is employed by the natives very extensively in cooking. It becomes rancid very quickly. Commercially, it is used in soap-making. In its native home (Dahomey, for example), the oil is extracted by fermenting the fruits in jars for several days; they are then mashed, the nuts are taken out, and the pulp is boiled in large kettles of water. The oil rises to the surface of the water and is skimmed off. Its purification is later brought about by boiling it for some time. The nuts, clean of pulp, are then broken with stones or hammers. The kernel, "palmiste," is removed and dried, after which it is ready for use. These dried kernels are exported to Europe, and yield, under pressure, 40 to 42 per cent palmiste oil, which is white, and has a melting point of about 25°C. This oil is employed in the making of fine soap. (Adapted from Capus et Bois, Les Produits Coloniaux, 1912, p. 294.)

*Erythrina excelsa* (Fabaceae), 47498. From Entebbe, Uganda. Seeds presented by the chief forestry officer, Forestry Department. An ornamental tree, native to upper Guinea, growing to a height of 60 feet. It has glabrous branches which are armed with numerous sharp, straight, short prickles. The leaves are trifoliate, the broadly ovate central leaflet being 9 inches long. The bright scarlet flowers are borne in dense racemes about 6 inches long. (Adapted from Oliver, Flora of Tropical Africa. vol. 2, p. 183.)

*Ipomoea cairica* (Convolvulaceae), 47532. **Morning glory.** From Zamboanga, P. I. Seeds presented by Mr. P. J. Wester, agricultural advisor. "Seeds of a white-flowered variety of *Ipomoea cairica*, extremely attractive and floriferous. Unlike most plants of this family, *I. cairica* is ever-blooming. The mauve-colored variety is the most popular climber in the Philippines and very rarely seeds, being propagated by cuttings. The plant from which these seeds were obtained is the only one with white flowers I have seen." (Wester).

*Markhamia platycalyx* (Bignoniaceae), 47499. From Entebbe, Uganda. Seeds presented by the chief forestry officer, Forestry Department. A tree, 30 to 40 feet high, known in Uganda, where it is native, under the name *lusamabia*. It is said to yield the finest of local timbers. The compound leaves are made up of 5 to 9